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Response
HJ/JL
12/10/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mr. B.C. Hornady

Serial No.: 09/833,847

Filed: 04/12/01

Art Unit: 3612

Examiner: Hilary L. Gutman

Title: Apparatus for Covering Payloads

Responsive To: Office Action mailed June 19, 2002 and Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed November 20, 2002

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DEC 05 2002

GROUP 3600

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir or Madame:

In further response to the Office Action of June 19, 2002 and in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, mailed November 20, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--ABSTRACT

An apparatus for covering objects, particularly payloads being shipped on flat bed trailers. The apparatus has a slideable hoist connected to a track suspended over a payload. The hoist has a retractable line which is connected to a spreader bar that can be connected to a covering that will be lifted and spread over the payload as the hoist is maneuvered by a remote controlled system along the track. The apparatus also has a rod that traverses beneath and near one end of the track. The rod provides support to the trailing portion of the covering as it is pulled over the payload by the hoist.--